

**KIRKBY OVERBLOW ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**Minutes of the 127th Meeting held on Monday 15 May 2023**  
**at Low Hall, Kirkby Overblow**

Present:

Parish Councillors: Mr D Yeadon, Mr J Cross, Mrs P Perry, Mrs A Whiteley, Mr Simon Jacobs, and Mr S Snowden (from 7.45)

2 residents attended.

In attendance: NYC Cllr A Paraskos and Mr M Richards (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for Absence** None

**2. Minutes of the 126<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2022 had been agreed as a true record, and duly signed by the Chairman at the July 2022 meeting of the Council.

**3. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman, David Yeadon, presented his report, for the period 2022-23.

This is the 127<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting. There have been no changes in personnel on the Council this year.

This has been a quieter year for planning applications with only 18 received – quite a reduction from previous years.

The position regarding the Star & Garter remains unaltered. An offer was put forward last year by the Kirkby Overblow Community Hub to purchase the property which was rejected by the owner. There is still no sign of any plans to convert the building into a private house for the owner's son. Concern remains regarding the continued deterioration of the building and site.

Following a grant of £70000 from the former Harrogate Borough Council the children's playground has had a complete make over including some new equipment and was formally opened by the Mayor of Harrogate last October.

We have put up the annual precept by £500 to £9500, we have held another village litter pick and after much consultation the siting of the new village litter bins have been agreed following a meeting with Council officials. Sam Hesselden has again been instructed to do the village grass cutting.

On the village event front to mark the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we held an evening barbecue by our newly erected beacon, which was lit for the first time and also a street party. Last November the KODS production of Calendar Girls was sold out for four nights. Recently to mark our new King's Coronation, a musical evening titled a "Right Royal Do" was held in the church featuring the village choir.

Following the demise of Harrogate Borough Council, I would like to thank Andrew Paraskos as our now "all in one" Councillor on the newly formed North Yorkshire Council for his attendance at our meetings and for his help and advice. Special thanks also to our clerk, Mike Richards, for carrying out his duties in a professional and efficient manner.

That, ladies and gentlemen, concludes my report. Questions and suggestions are always welcomed at any time.

#### **4. Financial Report 2022-23**

The Parish Council continues to operate with a stable financial position, due to prudent oversight and management by councillors. On reviewing the draft annual accounts, you will see that the main items of expenditure continue to be village maintenance (grass verge cutting) and the clerk's salary. Comparison with last year's figures reflect expected percentage increases for inflation and national pay awards. The Donations figure of £2000 is made up of £1000 towards Jubilee celebrations (entirely funded by a grant from HBC) and the Council was pleased to be able to make a grant of £1000 towards the playground refurbishment. All other items of expenditure are at normal levels, comparing closely with previous years.

#### **5. Questions from residents**

A resident commented on the number of dead and dying trees around the Parish and asked what the Parish Council's policy was in regard to this unfortunate issue, particularly concerning replacement. The Chairman responded that whilst the Parish Council shared the resident's concern, the Council had no role or policy for this issue, it was firmly the landowner's responsibility and he could not see what the Council could do. The resident responded by suggesting a survey could be undertaken to identify affected trees to determine the extent of the problem, and then potentially consider the possibility of providing support to landowners for replacing dying trees. He volunteered to conduct the survey and the clerk then added that the Woodland Trust could possibly be contacted for the supply of replacement trees. Councillors agreed to await the outcome of the survey before considering further action.

As there were no other questions, the Chairman thanked all for their attendance and the meeting terminated at 7.50.

**The 128th Annual Parish Meeting is planned for May 2024, 8pm at All Saints  
Church  
(Date to be confirmed)**